NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

POINTS OF A HORSE.

MR. EDITOR,

A good horse is a desirable acquisition, and he who finds one, in the course of his life, may think himself lucky. The points, or marks, of a good horse, are perhaps not generally known, among your readers, though to many they may be familiar. A person who is well acquainted with the marks indicative of a good horse, is not very likely to be deceived in regard to his physical powers, though he may be, with respect to the *character* of the animal. A horse may possess all the points, or marks, characteristic of power, and at the same time, have some vice, that will render the use of him unpleasant, or dangerous. It is therefore advisable, before purchasing a horse, to give him a thorough trial, and in a variety of ways.

A particular quality, in a horse, is sometimes so desirable to the purchaser, that he is willing to dispense with many good points, for the sake of it. For instance, the difficulty and inconvenience of tying a horse, in the streets, are so great, that many gentlemen content themselves with indifferent horses, if they but possess the virtue of standing well. Very much may be known of a horse's character by his physiognomy; but to describe the different expressions of the human countenance is difficult, and the less definite ones of a horse, I shall not attempt—my object is merely to give some of the most prominent marks, or points of a good horse; a description of which may serve as a guide, in the selection of this useful animal. I begin with the head, which ought to be small and progressively to diminish in weight, and size, as it approaches the nose. The neck ought to be short and light. The head cannot be too small, nor the neck too short and light. The reason is obvious. The head and neck of the horse are placed wholly anterior to his points of support. The shorter the neck, therefore, and the lighter the head, the less likely is the horse to stumble and fall. The more weight there is anterior to the fore legs of a horse the more difficult it is for him to keep his balance, or to recover himself on making a false step. This can be explained upon the principles of the lever or by the steel-yards. Suppose a horse's neck ten feet long, and a head of a common size, attached to its extremity—the weight of the head, with this immense leverage, would be so great, that the weight of the body would not counterbalance it, and the horse would constantly be falling on his nose.

A horse with a long neck is not only more likely to fall, but *cæteris paribus* his wind cannot be so good. The longer the neck, the more difficult is the access of air to the lungs. A horse, therefore, with a long neck, will have short wind; and is only calculated for slow draught. He will not answer for the turf. No horse can run well with a long neck.

The next point is the shoulder, several circumstances concerning which are important to be considered. The scapula or shoulder blade ought to be broad and long, and the muscles attached to it thick and large. When the hand is passed down the neck and the shoulder blade cannot be felt, it amounts to a certainty that that horse has good action. The apparent thickness of the shoulder depends upon the obliquity of the shoulder blade, and in proportion as it is oblique, so is its motion limited.

The carcass of a horse ought to be a subject of particular attention. This cannot be too circular. A cylinder gives the greatest possible capacity. A horse, therefore, with a round chest, has more room for the expansion of his lungs than a horse with a chest otherwise formed. His wind must therefore be better; besides he fats much easier; he requires less food. A horse with a round chest will keep fat upon almost any thing, whereas it is almost impossible to fat a horse with a narrow or flat chest. A horse with a thin narrow chest cannot bear heat, has bad wind, is always lean, weak and tender.

The vigor of a horse depends more on the formation of the carcass than on any other point, and the reason must be obvious—the carcass contains the heart and all the important and vital organs.

The spine, or back, which extends from the fore to the hind quarters, cannot be too short for strength. A short, hump-back is indicative of great strength, especially in carrying weights. We arch bridges for the purpose of adding to their strength, and a horse's back may be compared to a bridge, and the four legs the four pillars of support. The shorter the arch, the greater weight it will support, and for the same reasons, a horse with a short, curved or hump-back (other things being equal) will carry the greatest burthen.

Although a short back is indicative of strength, it is not of speed and action. A long back must obviously give greater room for action. The Hare and Weasel have, in proportion to their size, extremely long backs; and "to run like a March Hare," is proverbial. A long back, however, must be a weak back, and unable to support heavy weights. In choosing a horse, therefore, for common use, it will be best that he should have a back of a medium length; neither too long nor too short.

The hind quarters of a horse ought to be long. I mean by hind quarters, the parts from the haunches backwards, the parts that lie between the *os Ilium* and the *os Ischium*.

The hock or gambrel ought to be long and broad. The os calcis, or heel bone of this joint, corresponds to the same bone in the human subject. The longer this bone is, and the further it projects backwards, by so much the greater length of lever, do the muscles act, which are attached to it. It must be obvious, therefore, that this is a very important point in a horse, and one that ought never to be overlooked. It is impossible to have a good horse, without a good hock. A horse may be a good animal with bad fore legs, but he never can be with a bad hock. The fore legs merely support the body—the hind legs propel it forward. The horse puts himself in motion and performs all his functions *solely* by the action of the muscles attached to the os calcis. The further this bone projects backward, the longer is the lever by which the muscles act, and the greater will be their propelling power.

The legs of a horse ought to be flat—the bones small and the muscles large. Bones do not give strength, and when the bones of the leg are sufficiently large to support the weight of the animal, all over this is superfluous, and worse than superfluous; it is a dead weight upon his motions. Bones are mere levers, and the skeleton a mere frame, on which the muscles act. Bones are, in themselves, inert substances. Muscles give strength. All the motions of the animal are performed by his muscles. The relative position of the bones may be such as to add very much to the power of the muscles. When the bones are so placed with regard to each other, as to give a long leverage to the muscles, such muscles act with increased power; and in this consists, in a great degree, the excellency in the mechanism of the horse.

The above are the most prominent marks or points, as they are called, of a good horse. In the purchase of a horse, however, many other circumstances are to be taken into consideration. It is of immense consequence that he should have perfect feet. It is obvious, that a horse with bad feet, however good his points may be, must be rather a useless animal. A horse with bad feet, is always an unsafe horse; he will always trip, and is very liable to fall. Any tenderness or uneasiness about a horse's feet renders him unsafe. Even a shoe, that does not set easy, will surely cause a horse to trip.

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The following description of perfect and imperfect feet, is taken from Goodwin's New System of shoeing horses—an Abridgement of which has recently been published in this city.

Perfect Hoofs.—"A perfect hoof has the shape of a cone, except at the heel. The front, which comprises the largest portion of the wall or crust, is the most cone-like, and the quarters are less so. When the horse is standing on a pavement, the foot, at its base or bottom, is much larger than at the top or coronet, and the crust descends from the coronet to the bottom in a regular slope, at an angle of about 45 degrees in front."

"The hoof should be smooth and even on its surface, strong, tough and vigorous in its appearance; the heels should be well back, and the nearer they approach to the back part of the frog the better, and the more the quarters and heels approach to a perpendicular position, the more they are calculated to support the weight above: the space appropriated for the frog should be wide and open."

"Having described as much of a perfect foot as can be seen when the horse is standing, I proceed to describe the appearance and shape of a perfect hoof, when the foot is taken up. The first circumstance that deserves attention is the uniform box of horn, which being divest-

ed of all its superfluous or exuberant parts, approaches to the form of a circle."

"The words 'superfluous parts' may require some explanation:—Suppose a horse to have run in the fields until he is four or five years old, and that his feet have never been touched by an instrument, this state of the feet, would by many persons, be called a state of nature, and the foot would therefore be thought perfect; but it ought to be considered like any other production of horn which has grown into a state of exuberance in some parts, and is worn and broken in others. When the hoof is divested of these exuberances in the same way, as we cut our nails to keep them in a fit state, I consider that the proper time to look at the hoof, to observe its natural shape. It will then appear that the base or bottom of the crust descends to the lowest part of the foot, and projects beyond the sole, and is that part which the horse rests upon. It should therefore be thick, firm and strong."

"As the crust is that part on which the shoe rests, and to which it is nailed, it is very important that it should be perfect in thickness and strength. The bars or binders, being a reflection or continuation of the crust, should be firm and strong, and should have an oblique position in the descent to their union with the bottom of the frog. The sole should also be firmly and uniformly united with the crust and bars, and be strong and concave."

"The frog, which is uneven in its surface, being convex on each side, concave in the centre for about half its length, and then convex to its termination, should be strong, full of horn, prominent and vigorous in its appearance, open in the centre or cleft, and full on its sides and points.

"The space between the frog and bars should be open, distinct and clear, and the heels of the crust should come as far back, or nearly so, as the heel of the frog."

Weak Feet.—"Feet of this description are frequently large, flat and thin, though there are also some which are very thin, but not out of proportion in size: both kinds are uniformly concave on the front part of the crust, and curl up at the toe, in proportion to the extent of the defect. It is equally observable, that the crust in feet of this description, is uneven on the surface; being frequently indented, wrinkled, and having a ringlike appearance."

Small Feet.—"It is not unfrequent to see large horses, but chiefly among those which are thorough-bred, with small feet. The base of the feet of these horses not being broad enough to support the superincumbent weight, they are consequently insecure on their legs, and soon break down."

Large Feet.—"There is likewise a class of horses with feet of a form the reverse of the last described, having no particular malformation, but being too large and unwieldy."

"When such horses are required to work, the weight of the foot has a manifest effect on their action, rendering it slow and clumsy."

EXPLANATION OF THE CUTS.

Fig. 1.—Natural hoof, and representation of the French method of driving the nails within the crust, and going through a portion of the sole.
Fig. 2.—Contracted hoof.
Fig. 3.—Convex sole, or pumiced hoof.
Fig. 4.—Flat thin hoof, with weak low heels.

From the American Farmer of August 23.

TUNISIAN SHEEP.

We have great pleasure in recording the following authentic history of an importation of Tunisian Sheep, and we particularly desire that our correspondents would furnish us with accounts, as detailed, respecting every importation of Live Stock, which has come within their knowledge; and, especially, when the facts so conclusively demonstrate the tendency of agricultural pursuits and subjects to inspire all who embark therein, with a liberality of feeling and design which, so far from admitting the idea of venal rivalry or sordid monopoly, bid every one generously welcome to the fair enjoyment of new sources of profit.

Belmont, August 14, 1822.

DEAR SIR,

In your paper of the 2d inst. I see queries respecting the TUNIS BROAD-TAILED SHEEP. "*How many were received? and were any sent into other states?*"

I have given a full account of these sheep in the 2d volume of the *Philadelphia Agricultural Memoirs*. My opinions continue unaltered; and I had supposed the subject to have been exhausted. I have no desire to revive it, further than to answer your queries as fully as historical facts require; and *that* with no personal objects. I do not relate the circumstances to blazon my own exertions, but under a persuasion that a useful moral may be drawn from them. I am the only person acquainted with the whole subject, to which I do not mean to give more importance than your inquiries seem to elicit. Col. Pickering with his accustomed candor, has published, in *Poulson's* paper of the 4th or 5th of July last, what he thought proper as to himself. The paragraph has not his singnature; but he informed me of his having written it; and I mention it, for reasons operating with me.

I understood, *from Gen. Eaton*, and so did Col. Pickering, that eight or ten sheep were shipped; but only a pair arrived. Being far preferable to the coast sheep, they were procured by Gen. *Eaton*, (as he informed me,) off the Dey's farm in the interior of the country, by the Dey's permission, as a compliment to the United States. It was therefore proper that they should pass under the direction of the Secretary of State. They arrived in the *Delaware*, in a public ship; and of course, were placed by Col. *Pickering* in the neighbourhood of the port of arrival. It would have been out of character with him, (only one pair having arrived) to have sent them into any other state; nor would he have so done, in whatsoever way he might have received them. I was informed that the rest of the shipment perished at sea. Capt. *Geddes*, to whose care they were committed, had a character too respectable to permit any supposition that he was either negligent or selfish; yet Gen. *Eaton* expressed much dissatisfaction and chagrin.

The burthensome, though not regretted, deposit, was put into my hands by Col. *Pickering*. Considering myself as a kind of trustee; and always desirous of spreading through our country the benefits of such acquisitions; I refused offers of emolument; though no terms forbidding personal profit, were made. I gratuitously dispersed the breed, not only in Pennsylvania, but into the neighbouring states; at no small trouble and expense to myself. Several victuallers, finding the superiority of the mutton over that of all other sheep, both in quality and price, made up a purse and offered any sum I chose to fix for the Ram. I refused the proffer, and after his covering, during several seasons, great numbers of ewes sent to my farm; and there pastured and served without charge; he was conveyed to my late friend, Gen. *Hand's* farm near Lancaster; where he was killed by dogs; after propagating the breed extensively. The ewe met the like fate, on my farm; having yeaned a healthy lamb at sixteen years of age.

Chancellor *Livingston's* sale of two *Merino* sheep for $3000, gave impetus to the ardor which had began to operate in favor of that breed. Had he *given* them away, the effect would have been far otherwise on the minds of both farmers and speculators. *Voila les hommes!* Fancy paints profits in proportion to price paid. Small gains are counted on gifts, or cheap purchases.

Discovering the impolicy of continuing (however beneficial my distributions may, at first, have been,) gratuitously to bestow lambs; and of my other modes of dispersing the breed without charge; I encouraged my neighbor, *Thomas Bones*, in raising fine Broadtailed Sheep, from my stock, for sale on his own account. He did great justice to my confidence in him; and sold considerable numbers; many whereof at their request, I selected for the purchasers. Many were sent to *South Carolina*, as I mention in our volume. *The credit of, and demand for the sheep, were really enhanced by the prices paid for them*; though these prices were moderate, indeed; compared with those of *Merinos*; which overwhelmed the *Tunisians* in public opinion, during the Merino-fever.

Country people do not value an article *given away*; presuming that it is held by the donor in small estimation; and in this they are not singular. The usual short sighted practice among farmers, of selling to victuallers, or in the mar-

ket the best lambs and sheep; and keeping only those unsaleable; deteriorated the breed most lamentably. My tenants, who had the charge of my flock, had their share in this culpable propensity. Several butchers posted breeders from my stock, in *Jersey* and *Delaware*. The progeny were slaughtered for the market. This also diminished the multiplication of the breed. Yet I was surprised by the information I frequently received, at the numbers produced from an original pair, even under circumstances not always encouraging.

I know of no other importation of Barbary sheep, contemporaneous with the subjects of this account. Long after the arrival of the pair mentioned; I was informed that Capt. Baron had brought some *broadtailed coast sheep* into Virginia. But from the accounts of them I had heard, they were inferior to the Mountain sheep of *Tunis:* and so are all other African sheep which have fallen under my notice. The sheep of the Eastern countries, Asia and Africa, are generally (with some exceptions,) broadtailed.

Many years ago I saw, in England, in the King's flock at Richmond, several of the *Laticandæ*. Some of them with cumbrous trailing tails, borne on little wheel carriages, dragged after them. None of them, in appearance, equal to the Tunis Mountain sheep. In my old, learned, and valuable work,—*Scheuchzer's Physicæ sacra*,—there are plates, admirably executed, of victims for the Jewish altars. Among them, trailing Broadtails similar to those I saw at Richmond. So that there are many varieties of the *Laticandæ*; and the success of breeders entirely depends on the selection of the valuable kinds.

The name, (as you seem to require it) I gave to the Ram, was *Caramelli*, that of the Ewe, *Selima*. They will, perhaps, become memorable as the first emigrants to our country, from this branch of the extensive family of the *Laticandæ*.

Not knowing, exactly, the object of your queries, I may have enlarged unnecessarily. But you may gather what you deem satisfactory, for any purpose you contemplate. Yours truly,

RICHARD PETERS.

JOHN S. SKINNER, Esq.

From the New England Palladium of Aug. 28.

RYE COFFEE.

Messrs. Editors,

A writer in the Palladium of the 16th inst. who signs a "Friend to Health," has advanced a theory on the effects of *Rye*, which appears so absurd, that I am almost inclined to think he meant the article as a *hoax;* be that as it may, the subject is of too much importance to the community to permit such unfounded assertions to pass without refutation. This writer attributes the cause of *weak limbs* and *debilitated systems*, which he says a vast number of persons have suffered from, to the use of "a compound of half *Rye*, and half imported Coffee, ground together;" and that "*Rye* is peculiarly calculated to produce that effect."—Now, if he had stated that a free use of the *spirit distilled* from Rye produced such effects, he might have found but few to controvert his position. But, that *Rye*, its *outer coat* or *bran*, by any preparation, except by distillation, is deleterious to *man* or *beast*, I pledge myself to prove to the satisfaction of every unprejudiced person, is an assertion not founded on facts.

If the writer will apply to the able and worthy Professor of Chemistry at the University, he will learn, that most of this *outer coat* which he says produces those debilitating effects, is, by the *roasting* process, converted into *carbon*—in plain English *charcoal*, which is *insoluble*, and of course, if the decoction is well fined, no part of it will be taken into the system, and if it was, no injury could possibly result, as a little charcoal is considered by most medical men as not unhealthy, and for some complaints is prescribed in large doses.

This "Friend to Health," admits that "a person may eat the *fine meal*, without witnessing any ill effects." Indeed! I will go farther, and say that it is a fact which can be fully substantiated, that five, or perhaps more, that ten millions of men that have composed the armies of *Russia*, *Sweden*, *Denmark*, *Prussia*, and the German Powers, during the wars of the last century, have subsisted upon little else than bread made with *Rye Bran*, and which they considered a luxury if the *bark of trees* was not mixed with it—for such compounds were often furnished by Peter the Great and Charles the 12th—yet history makes no mention of any complaint of "*weak limbs, debilitated systems, or uncommon inclination to sleep*," except what was caused by the innumerable *forced marches* those wretched beings were harassed with!

But this writer's theory is overthrown nearer home. The hardy yeomanry of Massachusetts eat very little other bread than Rye, coarsely *sifted*, mixed with Indian meal. The *outer coat* of Rye in our climate being very dry and brittle, is broken so fine in grinding, that a great portion passes through the *sieve* and is eaten.—Moreover, the lovers of *brown bread*, and I am one of them, well know, that the *finer* the *seive* the less *sweet* the bread. But we have no complaint among our farmers of *weakness of limbs*, or that they are, like a parcel of *Turks*, under the influence of *opium*.

I presume that if the "Friend to Health" had ever been in *Market-street*, in the City of Philadelphia, he would not have introduced *Horses* to support his theory. He might there have seen fine teams of that noble animal, as large and powerful as Elephants, and as fat as Whales, just off a journey of 5 or 600 miles, across the Alleghany mountains, with a load of four or five tons, that were fed the whole route on *Rye*, *outer coat*, chaff and straw cut up together, and as much too as they wanted; without any other grain, or scarce a lock of hay during the whole journey! He happens to be equally unfortunate with the *Pigs* he has bro't forward to prove that *Rye Coffee* is injurious to the human system, for on this point I do speak from the experience of near thirty years, and from the use of more than a thousand bushels of *Rye* and *Rye bran* in rearing and fattening *Pigs*. The writer says that after eating bran they will "lie down and swell with weakness!" I have seen them lay down after being gorged with this nutritious food, and they might have appeared to the eyes of some persons to "*swell with weakness*," but I believe that it would appear on *dissection*, to have been caused by a *full belly* of this *poisonous* stuff, and their disposition to *sleep*, from its fattening properties! I could cite many examples to shew the benefit of feeding animals with *Rye* and *Rye bran*. But it is time to return to Rye Coffee, which appears to have been extensively used in the middle States, particularly in Pennsylvania, for several years past, but no accounts of its debilitating effects have reached us; on the contrary, I shall offer high *Medical* authority to prove that it is a strengthening beverage for the stomach! Gen. Calvin Jones, of North Carolina, one of the most eminent Physicians in the Southern States, and who stands in the front rank of the philanthropists of our country, has written a dissertation on *Dyspepsia*, the great prevalence of which he attributes, in some degree, to the use of strong *imported Coffee*, and he says that in order to induce some of his patients to dispense with it, he has prevailed on them to substitute *Rye Coffee*, and that the free use of it has relieved them!—A letter from him to Mr. Skinner on the subject, was published in the American Farmer, last March or April; it is not at hand now, or I would send it to you. I hope however to see it soon published in your valuable paper.

The goodness of Domestic Coffee depends on its being properly prepared from sound Rye. I look upon the discovery and introduction of it, as very fortunate and of great importance to the country, as it lessens the expense of a very considerable item in house keeping, and at the same time is conducive to health. Its use therefore should not be discouraged till some better proofs can be adduced of its ill effects, than vague surmises and arguments, drawn from *Horses* and *Swine*.

A MIDDLESEX FARMER.

Mowing Match.—There was a famous mowing match in New Boston, on Saturday, August 17th, between Mr. Daniel Andrews, of New Boston, and Mr. Abel Hart, of Goffstown. The competition was who should mow an acre of meadow grass the quickest and best. The ground was staked out and the work performed in the presence of numerous spectators. Mr. Andrews completed his acre in one hour and twenty-six minutes. Mr. Hart in one hour and twenty-eight and a half minutes. The victory was of course decided in favor of Mr. Andrews.

Amherst (N. H.) Cabinet.

A safe, easy and cheap cure.—A broken winded horse had been kept in a field where there was not any water, except in the bottom of an old lime kiln, and had recovered his wind—The owner ordered a stable shovel full of quick lime to be renewed every five or six days, and the water to be poured off, and a bucket of it to be given every day to a broken winded coach horse, aged eight years, which had almost a constant cough. The horse was supplied with water thus prepared for about five weeks, and kept in the stable. He is now perfectly recovered in his wind, and free from a cough.—*Conn. Journal.*

We have seen a twig broken from a pear tree (says the last Newburyport Herald,) this season, scarcely two feet long, which, when taken off, we are told contained upwards of 80 pears. On it was upwards of 60 hanging in clusters like grapes, and of a size as large as hen's eggs. It came from the town of Essex in this county.

FACTS AND OBSERVATIONS RELATING TO

AGRICULTURE & DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

MANURE.

It is a generally received opinion that in some soils of a loose texture, the fertilizing parts of manure escape by sinking beyond the reach of plants. The Hon. Timothy Pickering, in an Address to the Essex Agricultural Society, delivered May 5, 1818, made the following observations on this subject. Speaking of what is sometimes called *riddle land*, Mr. P. remarks:

"But is it true, that on such land, or on any land, the fertilizing parts of manure escape by sinking beyond the reach of plants? If they do, how happens it, that in lands which have been cultivated and manured for ages, every layer of earth below the cultivated soil is, nevertheless, found dead and barren? Is it not for this reason, that farmers in general cautiously avoid ploughing deeper than the soil, lest by stirring that dead earth, and mixing it with the soil, they should lessen its fertility? The result of a little experiment which I had made prior to our revolution then occurred to me. Its recital may in some other respects be useful.

"Within a stone's throw of my father's house, was a piece of sandy loam, which from its contiguity to the dwelling place of himself and ancestors, for upwards of a hundred and thirty years, must have been kept, a large portion of that time in tillage, and consequently have been often manured. Yet the colored soil was no more then five or six inches in depth. This soil I removed from one spot, with three or four inches of the earth next beneath it. Of the next, red earth, I then took up as much as measured a peck and a half. Dividing a long box into two equal portions by a board, into one I put a peck of the earth; and into the other a half peck, intimately mingled and incorporated with half a peck of clay—perfect clay to the touch; but it was taken from the edge of a clay-pit holding water, where cattle often drank, and a flock of geese bathed, during the summer. Hence the apparent clay was doubtless impregnated, in some degree, with the droppings from these animals. This box I placed, on the surface, in a garden. Adjacent to it, I sunk, to a level with the surface, a small earthen pot filled with the same sort of clay. In these three places I sowed turnip seed, as late as the 20th of August. In a few days I reduced the number of turnip plants in each to three. The pot of clay, even with the surface received sufficient water from rains: but I regulary watered the parcels of earth in the box; bestowing equal quantities, and at the same times, on each division. Near the close of October, I carefully took up the turnips, and washed them, leaving upon them the fibrous roots and leaves. The three which had grown in the pot of clay weighed ten ounces—the bulbs hot to the taste, stringy and tough. The three from the dead red earth weighed only three ounces and the bulbs were soft, spungy and insipid. But the three which had grown in the mingled red earth and clay weighed twenty-four ounces, and the bulbs were of good texture, and well flavored.

"From the facts above stated, I felt authorized to infer, that all the lost manure, (that is all the parts not imbibed by the roots of plants, nor remaining in the soil) instead of *sinking* below the sphere of vegetation, *rose* into the atmosphere: and that "riddle land," (land on which the effects of manure were not lasting) however highly manured, so soon lost its fertility, not by letting the essence of the manure *sink* speedily through it, but by its *incapacity to retain it against the power of evaporation.*"

From these and other considerations, Mr. Pickering infers, "that manure arising from dung, and from all animal and vegetable substances, should be exposed as little as possible to the sun, the air and washing rains, and when applied to the soil, be immediately ploughed in. And further that the aim of the husbandman, possessing a soil from which the essence of his manure soon escapes, should be to add something which will render it more tenacious; like the soil which, in current language, is said 'to hold manure well.' For this purpose, nothing, probably, is equal to clay."

LIVE STOCK.

In observing on premiums given by Agricultural Societies for the best animals, Mr. Pickering observes:

"With great deference I would inquire, whether giving rewards for the *biggest* and the *fattest*, is the best mode of obtaining the *most valuable* breeds? Bakewell, the English celebrated breeder of cattle, sheep and swine, exercised his genius to produce such as were excellent in form, of sufficient size, which yielded the greatest quantity of meat on the most valuable joints, and would grow and fatten on the smallest quantities of food. In the fattening of cattle and sheep, there is a point to be attained, at which their flesh will be of the best quality, and most valuable to the consumer. Is not all beyond this a waste of time and expense in their keeping?"

INDIAN CORN.

Under this head Mr. Pickering remarks:—"The improving of our husbandry, in New England, is to be expected not from a rejection of Indian corn as the ruin of our lands, but by a better management of that crop in order to render it, as it appears it may be rendered, the best preparation for a crop of wheat, and other small grain.

"Every farmer knows how eagerly cattle devour the entire plant of Indian corn in its green state; and land in good condition will produce heavy crops of it. Some years ago, just when the ears were in the milk, I cut close to the ground the plants growing on a measured space, equal as I judged to the average product of the whole piece; and found that, at the same rate, an acre would yield twelve tons of green fodder; probably a richer and more nourishing food than any other known to the husbandman. And this quantity was the growth of less than four months. The ground was rich, and yielded, at harvest, upwards of fifty bushels of corn to the acre. The green stalks of our northern corn are incomparably sweeter than those of the southern states; at least when both sorts are grown in the north. Perhaps the greater and longer continued heats of the south may give a richness to the same large plants, which these cannot attain in the north. The stalks I have grown, rose to the height of 13 or 14 feet, and many of them weighed above five pounds. To support this height they are necessarily thick and woody in their fibres. My cows ate a small part of them—reluctantly—while they would devour the stalks of our northern corn. It has appeared to me that the sort called *sweet corn*, (having a white shrivelled grain when ripe) yields stalks of richer juice than the common yellow corn. It is also more disposed to multiply suckers—an additional recommendation of it when planted to be cut in its green state, for horses and cattle, and especially for milch cows; and its time of planting may be so regulated as to furnish a supply of food, just when the common pastures usually fail. I am inclined to doubt whether any other green food will afford butter of equal excellence."

FALLOW CROPS.

Mr. Pickering further observes, that, "The substituting of fallow-crops for naked fallows is one of the capital improvements in English husbandry. The naked fallows, formerly in universal practice, consisted in repeatedly plowing the land from spring to autumn—with two objects in view; one the destruction of weeds, with which their lands become foul by repeatedly cropping them with small grain, as wheat, barley, oats, rye, in immediate succession; for the weeds springing up with these crops, and ripening their seeds, the soil, in three or four years, was so amply stocked, that some mode of extirpating the weeds became indispensable. But for many ages no other than naked fallows seem to have occurred. The English farmers now grow fallow crops, selected according to the nature of their soils; as beans, carrots, turnips, potatoes, mangel wurtzel, cabbages. While these are growing, they *fallow* the ground; that is, they stir it repeatedly with the plough or hoe, or both; by which they as effectually destroy the weeds as by the naked fallow; and at the same time benefit their crops, whose products reward them for their labour.

"Naked fallows seem also formerly to have been considered as the means of *enriching* as well as of cleaning the land. The error of their practice, in this view, cannot be better illustrated than by the following fact, communicated above 30 years ago to the Philadelphia Society of Agriculture, when I was a resident member, and which I well recollect. But to prevent circumstantial errors in the recital, I have turned to the Notes on Husbandry, by Mr. Bordley, (who was the vice president of the society,) where the case is stated.

"A gentleman of Maryland (Mr. Singleton of Talbot) ploughed up part (and this was the richest part) of a clover field, in March, intending to plant it with tobacco. It happened, that the tobacco crop was omitted. So this part was *fallowed*, that is, it was repeatedly ploughed in the summer, and on the first of September, sown with wheat. The residue of the clover field was twice mown. In August it was *once* ploughed, and on the same first of September sown with wheat. At harvest, the fallowed part of the field yielded only 14 and a half bushels to the acre. The other part, besides two crops of clover hay the preceding year, now gave 21 and a half bushels to the acre. This striking fact admits of an easy explanation, and in conformity with the principles already advanced. The repeated ploughing of the fallowed part of the field exposed the clover plants, roots and tops to the sun and air, by which they were dried up, and nearly annihilated; while other vegetable food in the

soil was also dissipated, or greatly reduced, by evaporation. But the clover, turned under by a *single* ploughing, was completely covered with earth, kept moist, gradually rotted, and so supplied food to the wheat plants most plentifully when most wanted, that is in the ensuing season, when the wheat was attaining its complete growth, and ripening the grain."

IMPROVEMENT OF SOILS.

Soils may be improved by the admixture of earths to alter their texture. This is a distinct thing from applying the substances commonly called manures. A soil may be composed of materials so essentially unfriendly to vegetation that any attempt to manure it without altering its *constitution*, or correcting its noxious qualities, would be like feeding a sick man with nourishing things, without removing the cause of his disorder.

Sir John Sinclair says, "Soils with acid, or salts of iron, may be ameliorated by the application of earthy lime or chalk. The sulphate of iron (copperas) is thus converted into manure. If there be an excess of calcareous matter (lime or chalk,) it may be improved by the application of sand or clay, or earthy substances. Soils too abundant in sand, are benefited by the use of clay, or marl, or vegetable matter. A deficiency of vegetable or animal matter must be supplied by manure. An excess of vegetable matter is to be removed by burning, or to be remedied by the application of earthy materials. The substances neccessary for improving soils are seldom far distant. Coarse sand is often found immediately upon chalk, and perhaps always under it, while beds of sand and gravel are commonly below clay, and clay and marl generally below sand."

PRESERVING MEATS.

The following recipes are from Additions to Willich's Domestic Encyclopedia, by Thomas Cooper, Esq. Professor of Chemistry and Mineralogy.

"If meat be intended merely for family use, and to be used in two or three months, the following pickle deserves to be recommended: Water, one gallon; salt, nineteen ounces; salt petre, one ounce and a half; sugar, half pound.

"The Russians are fond of the flavor of juniper berries, and add a pound of bruised juniper to a gallon of pickle.

"A tea-spoonful or two of cayenne pepper to the gallon, greatly increases the preserving power of the pickle.

"To cure gammons, first sprinkle them as soon as they are cut and trimmed, with a little (Liverpool) salt. Let them lay together for twelve hours: take them out of the tub, drain and wipe them; then rub them separately with a mixture of twelve parts common salt and one part salt petre, well dried and then ground fine. Rub in this mixture well; lay them in the pickling tub, and the next day rub them again with a similar mixture. The day after fill up the tub with a brine made in the proportion of 18 oz. salt, 1 lb. molasses, and 1 oz salt petre, to the gallon of water. In this pickle they may stay for a fortnight. Then take them out, drain, wipe and smoke them.

"If they are suffered to make their own brine by means of dry salt and salt petre entirely, they will lose too much of the juices of the meat, and become hard and dry.

"I have successfully cured beef in summer thus:

"I killed an ox in the middle of August, at 9 o'clock in the evening; it was cut up at 3 o'clock in the morning. The pieces were quickly rubbed with a mixture of ten parts of salt, and one part of salt petre, and put into a barrel. In the mean time a brine composed of 1 1-2 lbs. of salt, 2 oz. of salt petre, and half an ounce of common pepper, to the gallon of water, was ready over the fire, and when the beef was all packed in the barrel, it was poured on boiling hot. This prevented and destroyed all fly blows. In a week, the pieces were taken out, dried and wiped; the pickle was boiled over again, scummed, and again poured boiling hot on the meat when re-packed. The process answered the purpose perfectly."

A METHOD OF PRESERVING CREAM.

Take twelve ounces of white sugar, and as many grains of finely powdered magnesia, and dissolve them in a small quantity of water, over a moderate fire. After the solution has taken place, 12 oz. of new cream should be immediately added, and the whole uniformly mixed while hot. Let it then gradually cool, and pour it into a bottle, which must be carefully corked. If kept in a cool place, and not exposed to the air, it may be preserved in a sweet state for several weeks, and even months.

Domestic Encyclopedia.

TO PREVENT BOTTLED CIDER FROM BURSTING.

Make a strong frame of plank, say 1 1-2 or 2 inches thick and 9 deep, by locking it together edge-wise, place it in the celler, and sit the bottles of cider in it, (after being well corked) as close as possible, until it is entirely filled, except the space for one bottle, which must be left to commence taking them from, when wanted for use. Then put clean sand on them, and settle it between the bottles, by throwing on alternately water and sand, until the sand is well settled half way up the neck of the bottles. In that situation the bottles will be preserved, filled with the very best cider for any length of time.

By placing ice on the sand over the quantity of bottles proposed to be used a day, it will be as if put into ice water.—*American Farmer.*

TO PREVENT SKIPPERS IN BACON.

Take of red pepper finely powdered one table spoonful for every joint of meat, and rub it on the meat with the salt, when it is first cut up. It has been often tried, and was never known to fail in producing the above effect.—*ib.*

EXTIRPATING RATS AND MICE.

Lay bird lime in their haunts; for though they are nasty enough in other respects, yet being very curious of their fur, if it is but daubed with this stuff, it is so troublesome to them, that they will even scratch their skins from off their own backs to get it off; and will never abide in the place where they have suffered in this manner.—*Farmer's Journal.*

Quere.—Would tar answer the same purpose as bird lime?

From the Providence Journal.

To those who make, and those who love good Cider.

A few years ago, I was dining with a friend, who knew my fondness for cider with my food. He remarked, "my friend, I have no cider to offer you. Our apples have been principally cut off by frosts and insects, for several years past; but I can give you some cider wine." I took some of it, and diluted it with water, sufficient as I calculated, to reduce it to the strength of late made cider. When I drank of it, to my surprise, I found I had a glass of very excellent cider, with only the taste of a little apple brandy in it. The discovery of this fact suggested to my mind the following conclusion:—That farmers in a plentiful year of apples, may, with a little care, lay up a supply of good cider, against a year of scarcity. This may be done within a small compass, in the following manner:—Take your first made cider, which is fit only for the still, and convert it into brandy; put nine gallons of this brandy into a new barrel; then fill the barrel with late made cider, well strained, and bung it tight. This gives you the strength of near four barrels of cider, in one.—The strength given to it by the brandy, will preserve its sweetness entire, for many years. That which I drank was ten or twelve years old; and it was not impaired by age. When it is used, it only requires a sufficient quantity of water mixed with it, to render it excellent cider. The barrels should be new, and clean.—To guard against the rotting which is caused by damp cellars, they should be iron bound, and well painted. In this manner, any farmer, who has the fruit, may put up, in six barrels, the essence of twenty barrels of good cider, and keep it until a time of need. It will *fine* itself; and will grow better with an increase of age. Besides, if it is not wanted as cider, it is a very pleasant cordial, when *undiluted;* and, with the addition of a bushel of wild grapes, bruised, and put into each barrel, it imbibes the peculiar flavor of the grape, and becomes a very pleasant wine.

As there is an unusual quantity of apples this year, I have thought this communication might be useful to agriculturists. Now is the time for grinding up the early windfalls; and the cider, which these produce, if distilled, will furnish the brandy necessary for making the cider wine. And I can assure you, my friends, prepared in this way, it is much pleasanter, and less injurious to health and morals, than when drank, in the usual manner, mixed with water.

Those farmers who are fond of good cider with their food, and who have felt the want of it, in consequence of a scarcity of apples, will, I trust, feel the importance of attending to this subject, now, when they are blessed with an abundance of fruit. And another season, when their neighbours are destitute, the possesion of a plenty of excellent cider in their cellars, will more fully realize to them the value of this communication, if they will make the experiment. A. B.

A correspondent states that the medical qualities of pulverized Charcoal, are daily developing themselves. In addition to its value in *bilious* disorders, two ounces of the Charcoal boiled in a pint of fresh milk, may be taken in doses of a wine glass full, by adults, every two hours, in the most obstinate *dysentary*, until relief is imparted, which has not failed to be the effect in almost every instance. It is harmless and the experiment may be safely tried. Charcoal made from maple wood is the purest that can be readily obtained.—*Baltimore Chronicle.*

From the Floridian.

NATIVE NUT GALLS.

Messrs. Editors,

It may perhaps be gratifying to your readers to learn, that among the abundant vegetable productions of West Florida, the Quercus Cerris or Oriental Oak stands in the first class. It owes its importance principally to the production of Nut Galls. They have hitherto been imported from the Mediterranean at a great expense, and their importance in manufactures is well known. They are the production of an insect of an *hymenopterous* species. The *Cynops Quercifolu*, who deposit their eggs on the leaves and tender branches of the tree; an excrescence is soon formed around the egg, which enlarges to a ball the size of a bullet, enclosing the egg; which in process of time is hatched, and the embryo often undergoing several changes, finally eats its way out of its prison. This excrescence is the Nut Gall; and those found in Florida are equal in every respect to those imported from the Levant.

This tree seldom attains the height of ten feet, and grows principally in low and wet situations, and the galls cover the branches in great profusion. The writer of this gathered in the space of a few moments several pounds. When it is taken into consideration the importance of this production in Dying and Medicine, their present high price (from 50 to $60 per cwt.) and their not being indigenous in any other part of the U. S. we know of nothing that would so well repay the enterprize of any of our citizens, as collecting and sending them to the northward for sale.

A Friend to Domestic Industry.

From the Amherst (N. H.) Cabinet.

The Committee of the Hillsborough Agricultural Society appointed to view the field products of competitors, performed the duty assigned them in the present week, agreeably to the new regulation of the Society, substituted in the place of the greatest crops, viz. "The premiums are to be awarded by a viewing committee from actual inspection of the crops growing in the fields; and they will take into consideration not only the crops, but the soil, situation, former and present method and expense of culture, and the general husbandry of the farm." The gentlemen composing the committee who attended to the duty of their appointment, were Rev. H. Moore, P. Woodbury, Esq. Capt. Wm. Riddle, Capt. E. Abbot, Joseph Cochran, Esq. Mr. Phillip Brown, and Mr. Porter Kimball. This committee appears to have been judiciously chosen; being all men of practical farming knowledge. They passed through this and the neighbouring towns on Wednesday, and were accompanied by a number of gentlemen in viewing the farms entered for competition. They proceeded in their business with precision and expedition, and evinced judgment and skill suited to the undertaking. The committee expressed themselves highly pleased with their employment, and the highest encomiums on the reception and generous treatment they every where met with on their tour of observation—the people generally appearing greatly pleased with the change of the system of granting premiums on agricultural products. The committee entertain no doubt that premiums awarded in this manner will produce the happiest results. It is hoped that this experiment will excite the farmers of the county to a lively sense of the importance of promoting the general interests of the Society as immediately connected with their own and the general welfare of the community—That hereafter the Society may be enabled to offer premiums for the best managed farms, taking into consideration the soil and situation, the ability of the owner to make improvements, and the system on which he manages—and that the competitors may be greatly increased.

THE FARMER.

BOSTON:—SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1822.

We would beg leave to direct the attention of our readers to the piece with which this day's paper commences, which we think rational, philosophical, and calculated to be useful. Future favors of a similar nature from the same hand are respectfully solicited.

COOKING FOOD FOR CATTLE.

(*Concluded from page* 31.)

In the construction and management of "root steamers," (as they are called by the Complete Grazier,) there are some things worth attention, which we have yet to notice. "If water be heated in a close vessel no steam will be formed; if the steam escape by a small hole there will be less formed than if the whole surface of the water were uncovered."* It follows that, other things being equal, shallow vessels, or vessels about half full, exposing large surfaces of the water in proportion to its quantity, from which the steam may ascend, will afford the most steam with a given quantity of heat applied.

Allowing that one gallon of water will produce 1200 gallons of steam, it would be easy to calculate the exact quantity of water necessary to boil in order to fill with steam the vessels in which the food is cooked, were it not that the following circumstances are to be taken into consideration. Steam will be *condensed* with greater or less rapidity in proportion to the temperature of the atmosphere, and the temperature, the solidity, the dryness or wetness of the feed which it operates upon. Besides if the whole apparatus is made perfectly tight, a *safety valve* will become necessary, through which some of the steam will make its escape; and the exact quantity of the fugitive steam cannot be calculated. If the vessel in which the food is prepared is either open at top (as is common when a five pail kettle and a hogshead placed over it is used,) or is covered only by a thick coarse cloth (as recommended by the Complete Grazier,) a considerable quantity of steam will be wasted. But though, perhaps, no precise data can be given for generating or graduating the exact quantity of steam necessary for given purposes, as relates to cooking food for cattle, we believe there is commonly more water boiled, and of course more fuel used in steaming *solid* food than is necessary. Accurate experiments on this subject, and their results carefully recorded, would undoubtedly prove useful.

Steam may likewise be very profitably used in preparing *liquid* messes for cattle, as well as in warming vats for dyers, tanners, paper-makers, &c. &c. Many attempts have been made to heat liquids by steam introduced into them, which have generally failed, in consequence of its not being known, or not adverted to by those who have attempted the process, that fluids are *non-conductors of heat*, and consequently that heat cannot be made to *descend* in them. It is therefore necessary that the tube, which conveys the hot steam, should open into the *lowest part* of the vessel, which contains the liquid to be heated. We shall abridge from Count Rumford's Essays such directions as will enable any workman of ordinary sagacity to effect this purpose.

To succeed in heating liquids by steam, it is necessary, not only that the steam should enter the liquid at the bottom of the vessel which contains it, but also that it should enter *coming from above*. The steam tube should be in a vertical position, and the steam should *descend* through it previous to its entering the vessel, and mixing with the liquid which it is to heat; otherwise this liquid will be in danger of being forced back into the boiler by this opening; for the hot steam being suddenly condensed on coming into contact with the cold liquid, a vacuum will necessarily be formed in the end of the tube; into which vacuum, the liquid in the vessel, pressed by the whole weight of the incumbent atmosphere, will rush with great force, and with a loud noise; but if this tube be placed in a vertical position, and if it be made to rise to the height of six or seven feet, the liquid, which is thus forced into its lower end will not have time to rise to that height before it is met by steam and obliged to return back into the vessel. There will be no difficulty in arranging the apparatus in such a manner as effectually to prevent the liquid to be heated from being forced back into the steam-boiler; and when this is done, and some other necessary precautions to prevent accidents are taken, steam may be employed with great advantage for heating liquids; and for keeping them hot, in a variety of cases, in which fire, applied immediately to the bottoms of the containing vessels is now used. The boilers intended to be heated in this manner may be placed in any part of a room, at any distance from the fire, and in situations in which they may be approached freely on every side. They may be surrounded with wood, or constructed entirely with wood. The tubes by which the steam is brought from the principal boiler (which tubes may be conveniently suspended just below the ceiling of the room) may in like manner, be covered, so as almost entirely to prevent all loss of heat by the surfaces of them; and this to whatever distance they may be made to extend.

In suspending these steam tubes, care must, however, be taken to lay them in a situation *not perfectly horizontal* under the ceiling, but to incline them a small angle, making them rise gradually from their junction with the top of a large vertical steam-tube, connecting them with the steam boiler, quite to their furthest extremities; for, when these tubes are so placed, it is evident that all the water formed in them, in consequence of the condension of the steam in its passage through them, will run backwards, and fall into the boiler, instead of accumulating in them, and obstructing the passage of the steam, which it would not fail to do were there any considerable bends or wavings, upwards and downwards, in these tubes, or of running forward and descending with steam into the vessels containing the liquids to be heated, which would happen if the tubes inclined *downwards*, instead of inclining upwards, as they recede from the boiler.

The steam tube may either descend within the vessel to which it belongs or on the outside of it, as shall be found most convenient. If it comes down on the outside of the vessel, it must enter it at its bottom, by a short horizontal bend; and its junction with the bottom of the vessel must be well secured to prevent leakage.

When several steam tubes, belonging to different containing vessels, are connected with the same horizontal steam conductor, the upper end of each of these tubes, instead of being simply attached by soldering

*Nicholson's Chemistry.

to the under side of the conductor, must enter at least one inch within the cavity of it; otherwise the water resulting from a condensation of a part of the steam, in the conductor by the cold air which surrounds it, instead of finding its way back into the steam boiler, will descend through the steam tubes, and mix with the liquids in the vessels below; but when the open ends of these tubes project upwards within the steam conductor, though it be but to a small height above the level of its under side, it is evident that this accident cannot happen. In order that the ends of the steam tubes may project upwards within the horizontal conductor, the diameters of the former must be considerably less than the diameter of the latter.

As it is essential that the steam employed in heating liquids, in the manner before described, should enter the containing vessel at, or very near its bottom, it is evident that this steam must be sufficiently strong or elastic to overcome, not only the pressure of the atmosphere, but also the additional pressure of the superincumbent liquid in the vessel; the steam-boiler, must, therefore, be made strong enough to confine the steam, when its elasticity is so much increased by means of additional heat, as to enable it to overcome that resistance. This increase of the elastic force of the steam need not, however, in any case, exceed a pressure of five or six pounds upon a square inch of the boiler, or *one third part, or one half*, of an atmosphere.

In this and in all other cases, where steam is used as a vehicle for conveying heat from one place to another it is indispensably necessary to provide *safety valves* of two kinds; the one for letting a part of the steam escape, when, on the fire being suddenly increased, the steam becomes so strong as to expose the boiler to the danger of being burst by it;—the other for admitting air into the boiler, when, in consequence of the diminution of the heat, the steam in the boiler is condensed, and a vacuum is formed in it; and when, without this valve there would be danger, either of having the sides of the boiler crushed, and forced inwards by the pressure of the atmosphere, or of having the liquid in the containing vessels forced upwards into the horizontal steam conductors, and from thence into the steam boiler.

Count Rumford proceeds to shew that the principles above described had been carried into effect upon a very large scale, by Messrs. Gott and Company, at Leeds.

The dyeing house of Messrs. Gott and Company is very spacious, and contains a great number of coppers of different sizes, some of which contain upwards of 1800 gallons, and they are all heated by steam from one steam boiler. One of the largest of these coppers, containing upwards of 1800 gallons, when filled with cold water from the cistern, requires no more than *half an hour* to heat it till it actually boils! By the greatest fire that could be made under such a copper, with coals, it would hardly be possible to make it boil in less than an hour. Common wooden tubs may be substituted for coppers, for retaining vessels, or vessels in which the food is cooked.

The foregoing may give our readers some idea of the mode of heating liquids by steam. Those, however, who would wish to construct an apparatus for boiling liquids by steam, would do well to consult Count Rumford's Essays, which may be found in the Boston Atheneum.

We would here observe that what we have recommended and in part described in this essay does not rest on theory, nor speculations not tested and warranted by actual and beneficial practice. This we endeavored to show in the beginning of our essay (p. 23) and to make it still more evident, we shall add to this article a few facts derived chiefly from Mr. Smith's Address to the Maryland Agricultural Society.

"Mr. William Bean, of the city of Baltimore, the constructor of my apparatus, has stated to me that he can build such as mine at a cost from 60 to 200 dolls. A boiler of the lowest price, containing 30 gallons, would be sufficient to cook food for the stock of most farms in our country. The capacity of my boiler is 100 gallons. It has enabled my people for some time to cook every day, for more than one hundred head of stock, nourishing food, consisting of cut hay or straw, or corn tops and blades, or corn husks mixed with meal produced from the corn and cob ground together, or with other meal and a due proportion of water. When this food is intended for cows in milk, as much water is used as will serve to give it the liquid consistence of what is called a wash; but when it is prepared for dry cattle or for horses, so much water only is applied as is used in the common feed of chopped rye and cut straw.

"Clover hay, corn tops, blades and husks, when steamed, have been found greatly to contribute in the winter season to the improvement of the quality of the milk, insomuch as, in a great degree, to impart to the butter the yellow color and delicate flavor it would have received from the same articles in a green state. It is, however, proper to premise, that to produce these pleasing effects, the clover hay and the corn fodder must be well cured. When cut straw has been used, the advantages, though very perceptible, have not, from the dryness of the straw, been so strongly communicated to the butter. If the steamed food should not be intended for cows in milk, or for cattle for the butchers, or for working oxen or horses, but for stock going at large, there is no necessity to mix it with any meal whatever. And from the experience I have had I have no hesitation in pronouncing that not only straw and corn fodder, but the very corn stalks, instead of "wasting their sweets on the desert air," may, if well cured and preserved, be converted into nourishing food for the maintenance of stock throughout the whole winter season."

"The richness of the milk, the flavor and yellow color of the butter, afford the most convincing evidence of the excellency of cooked food. And this is confirmed by experiments made from time to time, in suspending and resuming the steamed preparations. Besides, under this system, every particle of the hay, of the straw, and of the coarsest offal is consumed. There is no waste; every thing is eaten with avidity. It would hence appear that the steaming apparatus, converting as it does all vegetable matter whatever, coarse as well as fine, into the greatest quantity of nutriment, affords the united benefits of nutrition and economy. And in this country, where so little green food is raised for the maintenance of cattle in the winter, the steaming of straw and corn fodder combines incalculable advantages. Besides, it should ever be kept in mind that, in the feeding of animals, the provender ought to have bulk as well as nutriment. A certain distention of the stomach is requisite."

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

London papers to the 19th July have been received by the Herald, Capt. Fox, from Liverpool. By these it appears that Madrid was in extreme agitation from the 1st to 5th of July. On the 6th, at night, one of the battalions of the revolted troops made a forceable entry into the city. They entered the avenues leading to the square at day light, and commenced a vigorous fire on the constitutional troops, or militia. The latter defended themselves successfully. At six in the morning, Gen. Morillo ordered a piece of artillery to be placed in the main street to prevent the retreat of the guards in that direction, the militia continued to fire upon them, and the mutineers, being repulsed on every side, withdrew to the palace, where they were received and welcomed by some persons of rank. They then offered to enter into negotiations, but notwithstanding their offer, subsequently attacked some of the militia, but were again repulsed. Some other events took place, whose details are of little importance. On the 8th, all the remaining mutineers surrendered, and the Bishop, in presence of the militia, performed a solemn mass in honor of the triumph.

A Paris paper of the 15th ult. states, that "a meeting of the Foreign Ministers has been held at *Madrid*, to sign a declaration relative to the events in that capital. Mr. Forsyth, the American minister, refused to sign it, as totally untrue; asserting that the loyal adherents to Ferdinand were his greatest enemies, and that the Cortes, Riego, &c. were his best friends. It is added that eventually all the foreign ministers, except the Austrian, agreed with Mr. Forsyth.

London, July 19.—*Important.*—Extract of a private letter received this morning from Paris, dated Monday evening last:—"The French government have just concluded a contract for 10,000 horses for the artillery, &c. All the different officers have been ordered to their posts, and the conscripts of the year 1821 are ordered to join the army. If this does not look like war, I don't know what does."

Mermaid.—The British Missionary Society in London have published an official account of the arrival of a *Mermaid*, at the Cape of Good Hope, and given a full description of her, and state that the proprietor of this extraordinary animal is Capt. Edes, of Boston, in America; who had been offered 10,000 dollars for it, but refused to part with it for any sum.

STILL LATER.—Since writing the above, London papers have been received by an arrival at this port, as late as the 25th ult. Accounts from Madrid are to July 12. The insurrection of the Guards is entirely suppressed—the late minister of war deprived of his functions. Disturbances, however, continue to exist in some of the northern provinces of Spain. It was said that the Constitutionalists had gained a victory in Catalonia. The insurgents fled to the mountains, where large bodies of them collect, and make predatory descents on the neighboring cities.

A petition has been presented to the British Parliament from certain persons in Leeds, praying for the interference of the House in the massacres of the Greeks by the Turks. The petition was ordered to be printed.

New York, August 27.

Although the last reports of the Board of Health are not of a nature to create alarm, yet the panic still continues, and is extending in the lower part of the city. This is however, natural. The alarm is more contagious than the fever; the stoutest heart is appalled by seeing his neighbors fleeing from their abodes, and the only relief is to follow them. Broadway, and the other great Avenues to the upper part of the town and Greenwich, exhibited yesterday a continued throng of carts, laden with merchandize from the warehouses below.

On the 24th inst. the President issued his Proclamation opening the ports of the United States to British vessels from ALL the British Colonial Ports at which our vessels are admitted—and on reciprocal conditions, as regards the vessels, proportion of mariners, and nature of the cargo.—*Palladium.*

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

THE RICH MAN AND THE POOR BOY.

A certain lad, who was a wag complete,
Whom even a yankee pedlar could not cheat,
Full of finesse, and paltry cunning tricks,
As rogues who shine in party politics,
Once met a coxcomb with less brains than cash,
Who therefore undertook to cut a dash
By dint of money, having nought beside
To form the underpinning of his pride.
"May't please your honor, sir," the urchin said,
"Give me two cents to buy some ginger-bread."
"I give you cents!—you little vile clod-hopper,
"Two kicks I'll give you, sooner than one copper.
"Give you two cents!—that would indeed be funny,
"You stand in need of *manners* more than *money*."
"Sir," said the lad, "I ask your honor's pardon,
"My case you must acknowledge is a hard one;
"For neither cash nor manners *I* can boast of,
"I therefore ask'd for what *you* had the most of."

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

THE SCHOLAR WHO LOST HIS KEY-HOLE.

A scholar, once, who had been drinking till he
Was quite impertinent and somewhat silly,
Came reeling home 'twixt twelve and one at night,
Fumbling his way to bed without a light,
But bellows out as loud as he could roar,
"*Some rogue has stol'n the key-hole to my door!*"

From the American Daily Advertiser.

Extract of a letter from an American gentleman in Smyrna, dated 27th May last, to his friend in Philadelphia.

"Our situation in this country continues to be very distressing, and our future prospects most uncertain. Notwithstanding the strong hopes that now exist, that a war with Russia will not take place, I must confess, I cannot much flatter myself with that hope. The Turks, by their conduct, will force Russia, if not eventually all the Christian powers, to declare war against them. The Island of Scio, containing a population of about one hundred and fifty thousand, has been taken by the Turks. This island was by far the richest of any of the Archipelago. The Turks, on their appearance, held out promises of pardon; they met with scarcely any resistance, still all the men have been killed, and the women and children made slaves, and daily pass through this place, on their way to different parts of Asia. To behold a young lady of respectable family, brought up in all the ease of affluence, a slave to some Turkish Boor, is most distressing. Other scenes, far worse, we are obliged to see and hear of daily. Strict orders are given to prevent any of these slaves from being sold to any Christian; still, however, a few, very few, are saved in this way, at a great expense.

"The Turkish fleet and the Greeks are now in presence of each other; the force of the latter is very inferior to the former, still they do not venture to attack them. The Greeks wait to find them at anchor, with the hopes of burning them; should they succeed, we may expect great disturbances here."

About sixty blacks were convicted at Charleston, for being concerned in the late conspiracy, 34 of whom were executed, and the rest sentenced to be transported.

From the Baltimore Patriot of August 14.

DROUGHT.

The northern and western parts of Maryland, and the adjacent parts of Pennsylvania, have suffered from a drought this season to a degree, unprecedented within the memory of the oldest persons living. In York, (Penn.) no rains of consequence had taken place on the 13th inst. from the preceding 21st of February, the time of the fresh—and for the last two months, there had not been a shower. Not one mill out of ten could grind at all, and the few that could, were not able to supply the demand. Farmers have been obliged to go twenty miles, to get as much ground as would support their families. The York paper seriously states, that a few weeks more of dry weather, would compel the inhabitants to resort to Baltimore for flour!! The summer crops have almost altogether failed.—"Some fields will not yield a grain of Corn, and the best of them not more than a few bushels to the acre." Verbal reports and letters confirm these statements, and in fact, give even more gloomy views of the state of the crops and the streams in the adjacent part of our state.

The York Gazette says, "we hear daily of springs that were considered never-failing, disappearing, and the people, like the thirsty throng of Israel, have to go miles in quest of water to sustain themselves."

Although nothing like the distress alluded to, has been experienced in Baltimore and its vicinity, the season has been of late very dry. Yesterday the dried plains received partial refreshment from timely showers, which have caused a perceptible difference in the atmosphere.

From a Philadelphia Paper of August 17.

We were yesterday highly gratified with the sight of a man walking on the water by the help of the *life preserver*. He jumped boldly into the middle of the Delaware, and made his way against the tide with apparently but little exertion. The length of time which it took to put on and adjust the dress, struck most of those present as a serious objection, but we learn that this inconvenience will be remedied in a new dress which the inventor is now preparing; and we have no doubt that the invention may prove useful in cases of shipwreck near land, where, not unfrequently, if only one can escape to shore, means may be obtained of saving the whole crew.

President Adams has recently given in immediate possession to his native town, Quincy, nearly two hundred acres of land, containing in a part of it an inexhaustable quarry of stone for building houses; the whole proceeds to be appropriated to religious and literary purposes from generation to generation. He has also given to the town his whole library consisting of highly valuable books, in various languages. This has already come into possession of the town.

Portsmouth Journal.

An eminent Physician, who was acquainted with the dangerous effects of Lead on the human constitution, recommended those who received their supply of water through *Leaden Pipes*, to have the water which had been standing in the pipes through the night, drawn off every morning, before they draw for the use of their families.

CHOICE OF A WIFE.

As notwithstanding all that wit, or malice, or pride, or prudence, will be able to suggest, men and women must at last pass their lives together; I have never, therefore, thought those writers friends to human happiness, who endeavor to excite in either sex a general contempt or suspicion of the other. To persuade those who are entering the world, and looking all abroad for a suitable associate, that all are equally vicious, or equally ridiculous; that they who trust are certainly betrayed, and they who esteem are always disappointed, is not to awaken judgment, but to inflame temerity. Without hope there can be no caution. Those who are convinced that no reason for preference can be found, will never harass their thoughts with doubt and deliberation; they will resolve, since they are doomed to misery, that no needless anxiety shall disturb their quiet, they will plunge at hazard through the crowd, and snatch the first hand that shall be held towards them. That the world is over-run with vice cannot be denied; but vice, however predominant, has not yet gained unlimited dominion. Therefore, those who undertake to initiate the young and ignorant in the knowledge of life, should be careful to inculcate the possibility of virtue and happiness, and to encourage endeavors by prospects of success.—*Johnson.*

There is a dear and precious period in the life of man, which brief as sweet, is best appreciated in recollection; when but to exist is to enjoy; when the rapid pulse throbs wildly with the vague delight which fills the careless heart, and when it may be truly said, that nothing is, but what is not.

There is not the greatest man living but may stand in need of the meanest, as much as the meanest does of him.

When the heart is deeply involved, every sense allies itself to its feelings, and the eye beholds no object, and the ear receives no sound, which, in the first impression, awakens not the master pulse of emotion.

Relations take the greatest liberties, and give the least assistance. If a stranger cannot help us with his purse, he will not insult us with his comments; but with relations, it mostly happens, that they are the veriest misers with regard to their property, but perfect prodigals in the article of advice.

PRONUNCIATION.

Sir David Dundas spoke in Parliament with a broad Scotch accent. "I say, Mr. Speaker," said he upon one occasion, "it is not in the poor [power] of this house to do so." "What," said a country member, "does the advocate of Scotland mean by talking of the poor of this house?" "He means, I suppose," said Mr. F. "the forty-five Scotch members."

A person having asked his physician how much daily food was required to nourish and support the body, the physician replied, "one pound of food will support man; should he take more, the man must support the food."